We claim:

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1. A compound of the formula:

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof wherein

- 5 A is a covalent bond, C_1-C_4 alkylene group optionally substituted with C_1-C_2 alkyl or mono- or disubstituted with halogen, preferably fluoro or chloro;
 - X is oxygen, sulfur or NR_6 , wherein each R_6 is hydrogen, cyano or an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms (which may be substituted with one or more halogens);
 - R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are each independently hydrogen, halogen, or nitro, or an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one or more
- OR, SR, S(O)R, S(O)2R, C(O)N(R, 2, or N(R, 2, wherein each R, is independently hydrogen, an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms (which may be substituted with one or more halogens) or benzyl, where the phenyl portion is optionally substituted with up to three groups independently selected from halogen, C1-C6 alkyl, C1-C6 alkoxy, amino, and mono- or di(C1-C6)alkylamino;
 - phenyl or heteroaryl each of which phenyl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted with up to three groups independently selected from halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, amino, and mono- or di(C_1 - C_6) alkylamino;
 - phenoxy where the phenyl portion is optionally substituted with up to three groups independently selected from halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, amino, and mono- or $di(C_1-C_6)$ alkylamino; or
- 30 a group of the formula

halogens;

where

J is a bond, CH₂, oxygen, or nitrogen; and each r is independently 2 or 3;

- R_s is hydroxy or a prodrug group; and Ar represents aryl or heteroaryl, each of which is optionally substituted with up to five groups.
- A compound according to claim 1, wherein
 Ar is optionally substituted benzothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl, isoquinolyl, benzothiophen-yl, benzofuran-yl or benzimidazolyl, or substituted oxadiazolyl or indolyl.
- 3. A compound according to claim 1, wherein A is a 15 covalent bond or CH₂; R₅ is hydroxy; and each of R₁-R₄ are independently hydrogen, halogen, more preferably bromo, chloro or fluoro, C₁-C₂ alkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, or C₁-C₂ alkoxy.
- 4. A compound according to claim 2, wherein A is a covalent bond or CH_2 ; R_5 is hydroxy; and each of R_1 - R_4 are independently hydrogen, halogen, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, or C_1 - C_2 alkoxy.
- 5. A compound according to claim 2, wherein R₁ and R₄ are hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; and R₂ and R₃ are independently hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, C₁-C₂ alkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, C₁-C₂ alkoxy, amino, mono or di(C₁-C₃ alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidin-1-yl, or piperazin-1-yl.

- 6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein at least one of R_2 and R_3 is hydrogen, and both R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen.
 - 7. A compound according to claim 1, wherein
- 5 A is methylene;

R, is hydroxy;

optionally Ar is substituted benzothiazol-2-yl, benzothiazol-5-yl, benzoisothiazol-3-yl, benzoxazol-2-yl, 2-2-quinoxalyl, oxazolo[4,5-b]pyridine-2-yl, benzothiophen-2-yl, benzofuran-2-yl, or thazolo[4,5-pyridine-2-10 y, thieno[2,3-b]pyridine2-yl, imidazo[1,5-a]pyridine-2-yl, or indol-2-yl, or substituted 1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl, 1,2,4oxadiazol-5-yl, isothiazol-5-yl, isothiazol-4-yl, 1,3,4oxadiazol-5-yl, 1,2,5-thiadiazol-3-yl, oxazol-2-yl, thiazol-2-15 yl, or thiazol-4-yl; and

 R_1-R_4 are independently hydrogen, halogen, more preferably bromo, chloro or fluoro, C_1-C_2 alkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy or phenyl where each phenyl portion is optionally substituted with C_1-C_6 alkyl, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, hydroxy, amino or mono- or di (C_1-C_6) alkylamino.

- 8. A compound according to claim 2, wherein R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; and R_2 and R_3 are independently hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, C_1 - C_2 alkoxy, amino, mono or di(C_1 - C_3 alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidin-1-yl, or piperazin-1-yl.
 - 9. A compound according to claim 1, wherein A is methylene;
- 30 R_s is hydroxy;

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25

Ar is an optionally 4,5,6 or 7-substituted benzothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzofuranyl, or indolyl, or

Ar is 2-benzothiazolyl substituted on benzo by one trifluoroacetyl or trifluoromethylthio, or one or two of fluoro chloro, bromo, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethylthio, or one or, preferably, two fluoro and one trifluoromethyl, or two fluoro or two trifluoromethyl with one methoxy, or three fluoro, or by 6,7-benzo.

- 10. A compound according to claim 7, wherein both R_1 and 10 R_4 are hydrogen or C_1 - C_3 alkyl.
 - 11. A compound according to claim 10, wherein at least one of R_2 and R_3 is hydrogen, and both R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen.
- 15 12. A compound of the formula:

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein

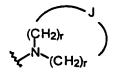
- A is a C_1-C_4 alkylene group optionally substituted with C_1-C_2 alkyl;
- 20 X is oxygen, sulfur or NR_6 , wherein each R_6 is hydrogen, cyano or an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms (which may be substituted with one or more halogens);
 - R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ are each independently
- hydrogen, halogen, an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one or more halogens, nitro, OR_7 , SR_7 , $S(O)R_7$, $S(O)_2NR_7$, $C(O)N(R_7)_2$, or $N(R_7)_2$, wherein each R_7 is independently hydrogen, an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms optionally substituted with one or more halogens or benzyl where the phenyl portion is optionally substituted with up to three

groups independently selected from halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, amino, and mono- or $di(C_1-C_6)$ alkylamino;

phenyl or heteroaryl such as 2-, 3- or 4-imidazolyl or 2-, 3-, or 4-pyridyl, each of which phenyl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted with up to three groups independently selected from halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, amino, and mono- or di(C_1 - C_6) alkylamino;

phenoxy where the phenyl portion is optionally substituted with up to three groups independently selected from halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, amino, and mono- or di(C_1 - C_6) alkylamino; or

a group of the formula



15 where

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J is a bond, CH₂, oxygen, or nitrogen; and each r is independently 2, or 3;

 R_s is hydroxy, an alkoxy group of 1-6 carbon atoms, or -O-M+ where M+ is a cation forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt; and

 R_8 , R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} and R_{12} in combination, represent hydrogen, or 1-3 groups selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, trifluoromethyl or nitro.

13. A compound according to claim 12, wherein R₁ and R₄ are hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; and R₂ and R₃ are independently hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, C₁-C₂ alkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, C₁-C₂ alkoxy, amino, mono or di(C₁-C₃ alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidin-1-yl, or piperazin-1-yl.

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14. A compound according to claim 13, wherein R_8-R_{12} represent one trifluoroacetyl or trifluoromethylthio, or one or

two of fluoro chloro, bromo, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethylthio, or one or, preferably, two fluoro and one trifluoromethyl, or two fluoro or two trifluoromethyl with one methoxy, or three fluoro.

- 15. A compound according to claim 12, wherein R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; and R_2 and R_3 are independently hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, C_1 - C_2 alkoxy, amino, mono or di(C_1 - C_3 alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidin-1-yl, or piperazin-1-yl.
- 16. A compound according to claim 15, wherein both R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen or C_1 - C_3 alkyl.
- 17. A compound according to claim 16, wherein at least one of R_2 and R_3 is hydrogen, and both R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen.
 - 18. A compound of the formula:

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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein

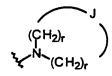
- A is a covalent bond, C_1-C_4 alkylene group optionally substituted with C_1-C_2 alkyl;
- X is oxygen, sulfur or NR_6 , wherein each R_6 is hydrogen, cyano or an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms (which may be substituted with one or more halogens);
 - R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are each independently hydrogen, halogen, an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms (which may be substituted with one or more halogens), nitro, OR_7 , SR_7 , $S(O)R_7$, $S(O)_2NR_7$ $C(O)N(R_7)_2$ or $N(R_7)_2$, wherein each R_7 is

independently hydrogen, an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms (which may be substituted with one or more halogens) or benzyl, where the phenyl portion is optionally substituted with up to three groups independently selected from halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, amino, and mono- or di(C_1 - C_6) alkylamino;

phenyl or heteroaryl such as 2-, 3- or 4-imidazolyl or 2-, 3-, or 4-pyridyl, each of which phenyl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted with up to three groups independently selected from halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, amino, and mono- or di(C_1 - C_6) alkylamino;

phenoxy where the phenyl portion is optionally substituted with up to three groups independently selected from halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, amino, and mono- or $di(C_1-C_6)$ alkylamino; or

a group of the formula



where

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J is a bond, CH₂, oxygen, or nitrogen; and each r is independently 2 or 3;

 R_5 is hydroxy, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, or -0^-M^+ where M^+ is a cation forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt; and

 R_{13} , R_{14} , R_{15} and R_{16} are independently hydrogen, halogen, nitro, hydroxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkylthio, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfinyl, or C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonyl.

19. A compound according to claim 18, wherein R_{13} , R_{14} , R_{15} and R_{16} , in combination, represent one of bromo, cyano or nitro, one or two of fluoro, chloro, hydroxy, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, or trifluoromethyl, or two fluoro or two methyl with

one hydroxy or one (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, or two fluoro and one methyl, or three fluoro groups.

- 20. A compound according to claim 18, wherein R_{13} , R_{14} , R_{15} and R_{16} independently represent fluorine, chlorine, nitro, and trifluoromethyl.
- 21. A compound according to claim 19, wherein A is methylene, methylene substituted with a methyl group, or 10 ethylene.
 - 22. A compound according to claim 21, wherein R_{13} , R_{14} , R_{15} and R_{16} independently represent nitro, one, two, or three of fluoro, one or two of chloro, or one trifluoromethyl group.
 - 23. A compound according to claim 22, wherein A is methylene, and R_5 is hydroxy or C_1 - C_6 alkoxy.

15

- 24. A compound according to claim 23, wherein R_2 and R_3 20 are independently hydrogen, halogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, alkoxy, amino, mono or di(C_1 - C_3 alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidin-1-yl, or piperazin-1-yl.
- 25. A compound according to claim 24, wherein R_{13} , R_{14} and 25 R_{16} are fluorines and R_{15} is hydrogen.
 - 26. A compound according to claim 18, wherein R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; and R_2 and R_3 are independently hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, C_1 - C_2 alkoxy, amino, mono or di(C_1 - C_3 alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidin-1-yl, or piperazin-1-yl.
 - 27. A compound according to claim 26, wherein $R_8 R_{12}$ represent one trifluoroacetyl or trifluoromethylthio, or one or

two of fluoro chloro, bromo, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethylthio, or one or, preferably, two fluoro and one trifluoromethyl, or two fluoro or two trifluoromethyl with one methoxy, or three fluoro.

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- 28. A compound according to claim 27, wherein R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; and R_2 and R_3 are independently hydrogen, bromo, chloro, fluoro, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, C_1 - C_2 alkoxy, amino, mono or di(C_1 - C_3 alkyl)amino, morpholinyl, piperidin-1-yl, or piperazin-1-yl.
- 29. A compound according to claim 28, wherein both R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen or C_1 - C_3 alkyl.
- 30. A compound according to claim 29, wherein at least one of R_2 and R_3 is hydrogen, and both R_1 and R_4 are hydrogen. which is selected from:
- 31. A compound according to claim 1, which is

 [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-chloro-phenoxy]
 acetic acid.
- [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-chloro-phenoxy]25 acetic acid ethyl ester;
 - (2-Benzylcarbamoyl-5-chloro-phenoxy)-acetic acid;
- [5-Chloro-2-(3-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid;
 - [5-Chloro-2-(3-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid;

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[2-(3-Nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-chloro-phenoxy]-acetic
    acid:
         [5-Chloro-2-(4-chloro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic
   acid;
5
         [2-(4-Bromo-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-chloro-phenoxy]-acetic
    acid;
         [5-Chloro-2-(4-methoxy-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic
10
    acid; or
         [5-Chloro-2-(4-trifluoromethoxy-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid.
15
         32. A compound according to claim 1, which is
         [5-Chloro-2-(2,6-difluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic
    acid;
          [5-Chloro-2-(3-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-
20
    phenoxy] -acetic acid;
          [2-(3,5-Bistrifluoromethyl-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-chloro-
     phenoxy] -acetic acid;
25
          [5-Chloro-2-(3,5-dimethoxy-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-
     acetic acid;
          [5-Chloro-2-(3,4-dichloro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic
30
     acid;
          {2-[(Benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl)-carbamoyl]-5-chloro-
     phenoxy}-acetic acid;
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acetic acid; or [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-methoxy-phenoxyacetic acid ethyl ester. 5 A compound according to claim 1, which is [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-chloro-phenoxy]acetic acid; 10 [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-fluoro-phenoxy]acetic acid; [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-fluoro-phenoxy]-15 acetic acid; [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-methyl-phenoxy]acetic acid; [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-nitro-phenoxy]-20 acetic acid; [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-nitro-phenoxy]acetic acid tert-butyl ester; 25 [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-nitro-phenoxy]acetic acid; or [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-methyl-phenoxy]-30 acetic acid. A compound according to claim 1, which is [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid:

[2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-methoxy-phenoxy]-

```
[2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-methylsulfanyl-
    phenoxy] -acetic acid;
 5
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-methylsulfanyl-
    phenoxy]-acetic acid ethyl ester;
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-methylsylfanyl-
    phenoxy] -acetic acid;
10
          [2-(3-Nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-methyl-phenoxy]-acetic
    acid;
          [2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-trifluoromethoxy-phenoxy]-
15
    acetic acid;
          [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic
    acid; or
20
          [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid
    ethyl ester.
              A compound according to claim 1, which is
           [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid;
25
          [5-Fluoro-2-(4-methyl-3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-
  acetic acid;
30
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4,5-difluoro-
    phenoxy] -acetic acid;
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-3,5-difluoro-
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phenoxy] -acetic acid;

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acid;
         [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic
 5
    acid ethyl ester;
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-
    phenoxy] -acetic acid; or
10
         [4-Bromo-2-(4-bromo-2-fluoro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-
    phenoxy]-acetic acid.
              A compound according to claim 1, which is
15
           [2-(3-Nitro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-4-trifluoromethoxy-
    phenoxy]-acetic acid;
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-4,5-difluoro-
    phenoxy]-acetic acid;
20
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-methanesulfonyl-
    phenoxy]-acetic acid;
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-methanesulfonyl-
    phenoxy]-acetic acid ethyl ester;
25
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-methanesulfonyl-
    phenoxy] -acetic acid;
30
          [4-Amino-2-(4-bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid:
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-methoxy-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid; or
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[5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic

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5
         37. A compound according to claim 1, which is
          [4-Acetylamino-2-(4-bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-
    phenoxy]-acetic acid allyl ester;
         [4-Acetylamino-2-(4-bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-
10
    phenoxy] -acetic acid;
         [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-trifluoromethyl-
    phenoxy] -acetic acid;
15
         [4-Allyloxy-2-(4-bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoy1)-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid:
         [4-Allyloxy-2-(4-bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoy1)-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid;
20
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-hydroxy-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid;
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-propoxy-phenoxy]-
25
    acetic acid: or
          [2-(2-Fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-propoxy-phenoxy]-acetic
    acid.
30
              A compound according to claim 1, which is
           [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-4-methyl-
    phenoxy] -acetic acid;
          [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-4-methyl-
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[4-Amino-2-(4-bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-

acetic acid allyl ester.

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[2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-4-
    methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid;
5
         [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-4-
    methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid ethyl ester;
         [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-4-
    methyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid;
10
          [2-(3-Nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-4-methyl-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid;
15
          [2-(3-Nitro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-4-methyl-
    phenoxy] -acetic acid; or
          [4-Bromo-5-fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid.
20
              A compound according to claim 1, which is
           [4-Bromo-5-fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid;
25
          [5-(3-Nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-2-fluoro-biphenyl-4-yloxy]-
    acetic acid;
          [5-(3-Nitro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-2-fluoro-biphenyl-4-
    yloxy] -acetic acid;
30
           [2-(3-Nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-cyano-5-fluoro-phenoxy]-
    acetic acid;
           [2-(3-Nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-4-morpholin-4-yl-
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phenoxy]-acetic acid ethyl ester;

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[2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-5-fluoro-4-
     morpholin-4-yl-phenoxy]-acetic acid ethyl ester;
 5
          {5-Fluoro-2[(4,5,7-trifluoro-benzothiazol-2-
     ylmethyl)carbamoyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid; or
          {5-Fluoro-2[(4,5,7-trifluoro-benzothiazol-2-
.10
     ylmethyl)carbamoyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid ethyl ester.
               A compound according to claim 1, which is
          {5-Fluoro-2-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-benzothiazol-2-ylmethyl)-
     thiocarbamoyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid;
15
          {5-Fluoro-2-[(4,5,7-trifluoro-benzothiazol-2-ylmethyl)-
     thiocarbamoyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid ethyl ester;
          {5-Fluoro-2-[(5-trifluoromethyl-benzothiazol-2-ylmethyl)-
     carbamoyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid;
20
          {5-Chloro-2-[(5-trifluoromethyl-benzothiazol-2-ylmethyl)-
     carbamoyl]-phenoxy}-acetic acid;
25
          [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid
     benzyl ester;
          [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid
     3-methyl-butyl ester;
30
          [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid
     octyl ester; or
          [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid
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phenoxy] -acetic acid;

butyl ester.

- 41. A compound according to claim 1, which is
 [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic
 5 acid cyclohexyl ester;
 - [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid 2-ethyl-hexyl ester;
- 10 [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid 2-methoxy-ethyl ester;
 - [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid octyl ester;
- [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylthiocarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid 3-methyl-butyl ester;
- [5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid 20 2-diethylammonium-ethyl ester hydrochloride;
 - 5-Fluoro-2-(3-nitro-benzylcarbamoyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid 2-trimethylammonium chloride-ethyl ester; or
- 25 [2-(4-Bromo-2-fluoro-benzylcarbamoyl)-4-methoxy-phenoxy]-acetic.
- 42. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an predetermined amount of a compound according to claim 1.
 - 43. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 42, further comprising an Angotensin Converting Enzyme inhibitor.

A pharmaceutical composition as claimed 43 wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is selected from benazepril, benazeprilar, captopril, delapril, fentiapril, fosinopril, libenzapril, moexipril, pentopril, petindopril, pivopril, quinapril, quinaprilat, ramipril, spirapril, spiraprilat, zofenopril, ceronapril, enalapril, indolapril, omaprilat, lisinopril, alacepril, cilazapril, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

- 10 45. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 43, wherein the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is selected the group consisting of selected from benazepril, benazeprilar, captopril, delapril, fentiapril, fosinopril, libenzapril, moexipril, pentopril, petindopril, pivopril, quinapril, quinaprilat, ramipril, spirapril, spiraprilat, 15 zofenopril, ceronapril, enalapril, indolapril, omaprilat, lisinopril, alacepril, cilazapril, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
- 46. A method for treating diabetic complications comprising administering to a patient suffering from such complications an effective amount of a compound of according to claim 1.
- 47. A method according to claim 46, where the compound is administered to the patient as a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 48. A method according to claim 47, where the pharmaceutical composition further comprises an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor.

- 49. A method for the treatment or prevention of the development of disease conditions associated with impaired neuronal conduction velocity comprising administering to a patient suffering from or prone to develop such complications an effective amount of a compound of according to claim 1.
- 50. A method for the treatment or prevention of diabetic neuropathy comprising administering to a patient suffering from or prone to develop such complications an effective amount of a compound of according to claim 1.
- 51. A method according to claim 50, where the compound is administered to the patient as a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 52. A method according to claim 51, where the pharmaceutical composition further comprises an angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor.
- method according to claim 52, the angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of selected from benazepril, benazeprilar, captopril, delapril, fentiapril, fosinopril, libenzapril, 25 moexipril, pentopril, petindopril, pivopril, quinapril, quinaprilat, ramipril, spirapril, spiraprilat, zofenopril, ceronapril, enalapril, indolapril, omaprilat, lisinopril, alacepril, cilazapril, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

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